

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 M-03

A-01 SY-10 NEA-10 OPR-02 USSS-00 RSR-01 /111 W

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R 082042 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5791

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: OGEN, PINS, APER, MX

SUBJ: RABASA AND COMBATting TERRORISM

SUMMARY: IN EXPRESSING USG APPRECIATION FOR GOM' S MINISTRATIONS IN RELEASE OF CONGEN LEONHARDY, A LIVELY DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE ON APPROACHES TO COMBATting TERRORISM. RABASA SET FORTH WELL- KNOWN GOM VIEW, I. E. LIFE OF HOSTAGE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY OTHER CONSIDERATION. USG THOUGHTS WERE CONVEYED WITH THE HOPE OF STIMULATING SOME GOM THINKING IN HANDLING THE GROWING MENACE OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

1. IN CALL ON FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA, AMBASSADOR MEYER AND CHARGE' DEAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GOM' S CLOSE CONSULTATIONS, DEEP CONCERN, AND HAPPY OUTCOME IN ACHIEVING SAFE RELEASE OF CONGEN LEONHARDY.

2. RABASA PROMPTLY LAUNCHED INTO EXPOSITION OF GOM' S WELL- KNOWN PHILOSOPHY REGARDING HANDLING OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM PROBLEMS. HE REITERATED HIS BELIEF THAT USG' S POLICIES ARE " THEORETICAL " BUT IN PRACTICAL SITUATIONS NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT TO GOM THAN SAVING A HUMAN LIFE.

3. RABASA WENT ON TO ASSURE THAT LEONHARDY' S KIDNAPPERS WOULD BE CAUGHT WITHOUT FAIL. HE NOTED THAT NO KIDNAPPER YET HAS ESCAPED

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4. AMBASSADOR MEYER EXPLAINED BRIEFLY WORK OF USG'S CABINET COMMITTEE TO COMBAT TERRORISM. WHILE HE EMPHASIZED USG POLICY OF FIRMNESS HE MADE CLEAR WE PLACE EQUAL VALUE ON HUMAN LIFE. HE INDICATED USG THEORY THAT BY BEING FIRM RESULTS CAN BE ACHIEVED WHERE TERRORISTS WILL SETTLE FOR " PARTIAL SOLUTIONS" E. G. THEIR SAFEHAVEN AND/ OR ADVERTISING OF THE CAUSE THEY ESPOUSE.

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